

## Message Text

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ACTION NEA-10

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 AID-05 CIAE-00 COME-00 EB-07 FRB-03

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FM AMEMBASSY CAIRO

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: EGIN, EG

SUBJECT: DATA ON 1976 GOE BUDGET

1. EMBASSY HAS RECEIVED COPY OF OFFICIAL JOURNAL (IN AARABIC) INCLUDING LAW NO. 150 OF 1975, WHICH PRESENTS GROSS TOTALS ON 1976 GENERAL BUDGET USES AND REVENUES, COMPARED WITH 1975. UNFORTUNATELY, DATA PUBLISHED ARE PRACTICALLY WORTHLESS FOR PURPOSES OF BUDGET ANALYSIS, EVEN ON MOST SUPERFICIAL LEVEL. USES ITEM, CURRENT AND CAPITAL, TOTALS LE 5,974 MILLION (\$17,853 MILLION AT OFFICIAL RATE), A MANIFESTLY ABSURD FIGURE IN ANY NET SENSE. LEGISLATIVE VERSION OF BUDGET EVIDENTLY IS PREPARED IN CIRCULAR SELF-FULFILLING AND BALANCING FASHION: CURRENT OUTGO EQUALS CURRENT RECEIPTS, CAPITAL USES EQUAL CAPITAL REVENUES. NO RPT NO MINISTERIAL OR FUNCTIONAL BREAKDOWN IS PUBLISHED.

2. TWO ITEMS OF POSSIBLY USEFUL INFORMATION CAN BE GLEANED FROM BRIEF TABLES, HOWEVER. GOE WAGES BILL TOTALS LE 768.3 MILLION IN 1976 BUDGET, AN 18 PERCENT RISE OVER PUBLISHED 1975 FIGURE. "SOVERIGNTY REVENUE," I.E., DIRECT AND INDIRECT  
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TAXES, IS SHOWN AS TOTALLING LE 1,341 MILLION IN 1976, UP ONE-THIRD FROM 1975 FIGURE OF LE 998.8

MILLION.

3. PUBLICATION IN THIS FORM IS LEGAL PROMULGATION OF DRAFT BUDGET APPROVED BY PEOPLE'S ASSEMBLY END OF DECEMBER, 1975. MINFIN ABU ISMAIL EARLIER IN MONTH HAD PRESENTED DRAFT VERSION TO PEOPLE'S ASSEMBLY WHICH CALLED FOR EXPENDITURE OF LE 5,831 MILLION. HE REPORTEDLY NOTED THAT THIS FIGURE IS LE 165 MILLION BELOW 1975 TOTAL, A REDUCTION WHICH IS PRESERVED IN FINAL FIGURES, ALTHOUGH DIFFERENT SUMS ARE LISTED. ON RECEIPTS SIDE, LARGE INCREASE OVER 1975 PROBABLY REFLECTS EXPECTED RISE IN CUSTOMS REVENUES AND IN DIRECT TAXES AS RESULT OF IMPROVED COLLECTION, NOTABLY, CONTINUATION OF PRESENT INCENTIVE SYSTEM FOR FINANCE MINISTRY TAXATION OFFICIALS.

4. NO OTHER BUDGET DOCUMENT IS TO BE PUBLISHED OFFICIALLY GY GOE, BUT WE ARE ATTEMPTING TO OBTAIN FURTHER USABLE DETAIL FROM FINANCE MINISTRY.  
EILTS

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## Message Attributes

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**Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
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